IN THE CLAIMS:

Original claims 1-20 were amended during Chapter II proceedings by substituting new claims 1-21 which were received by the International Bureau on June 22, 1999. Please cancel original claims 1-20, cancel amended claims 1-21 and rewrite them as new claims 22-32, and add new claims 33-35 as follows:

22. Antimicrobial peptides having a specific arrangement and disulfide-linkage of four cystein residues.

23. The antimicrobial peptides according to claim 22 wherein the peptides have a three-dimensional structure as shown in figure 13.

24. The antimicrobial peptides according to claim 22 wherein the peptides are CXC chemokines.

25. The antimicrobial peptides according to claim 22 wherein the peptides are thrombocidin-1 (TC-1), or variants thereof, which comprise at least in part the sequence as shown in figure 1A, indicated by the label TC-1, and have antimicrobial activity.

26. The antimicrobial peptides according to claim 22 wherein the peptides are thrombocidin-2 (TC-2) or variants thereof, which comprise at least in part the sequence as shown in figure 1A, indicated by the label TC-2, and have antimicrobial activity.

27. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 22 wherein said peptides, or variants thereof, are prepared recombinantly.

28. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 22 wherein said peptides, or variants thereof, exhibit antibacterial activity against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, for example *Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Streptococcus sanguis*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus epidermis*, and *Staphylococcus aureus*.

29. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 22 wherein said peptides, or variants thereof, exhibit antifungal activity against fungi, for example *Candida albicans*, *C. glabarata*, *Cryptococcus neoformans*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *A. fumigatus*, and *Pseudoallescheria spec.*

30. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 22 containing an additional N-terminal Histag sequence and having an enhanced antimicrobial activity in comparison to the same peptides without N-terminal Histag.

31. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 22 for use in the treatment of bacterial infections in humans and animals.

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32. The antimicrobial peptides, or variants thereof, according to claim 31 wherein the bacterial infection is endocarditis.

33. A method of minimizing or treating a fungal infection in a human or animal in need of such treatment, comprising administering in unit dosage form at least one peptide according to claim 22 together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

34. The method according to claim 33 wherein said fungal infection is endocarditis.